

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ANKARA 02481 041459Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00

OMB-01 /066 W

-----041503Z 052670 /40

O P 041425Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7014

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USDOCOSOUTH

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 2481

VIENNA FOR LEDSKY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, TU

SUBJECT: TURKISH POLITICAL DEBATE HEATS UP

REF: (A) ANKARA 2363 (DTG 311335Z MAR 77), (B) ANKARA 2445
(DTG 021215Z APR 77)

1. DURING THE LAST FEW DAYS THE PROCESS OF GOVERNMENT IN
TURKEY HAS COME TO A NEAR STANDSTILL AS POLITICAL LEADERS OF
ALL PARTIES AND FACTIONS HAVE BECOME TOTALLY PREOCCUPIED
WITH INTRICATE POLITICAL MANEUVERS DESIGNED TO IMPROVE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ANKARA 02481 041459Z

THEIR INDIVIDUAL POSITIONS PRIOR TO PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS.
MOST OF THIS MANEUVERING CENTERS AROUND: A) EFFORTS BY
PRIMIN DEMIREL AND REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (RPP) CHAIRMAN
ECEVIT TO MOVE THE ELECTION DATE FROM OCTOBER TO JUNE AND
B) ATTEMPTS BY OPPOSITION PARTIES TO BRING DOWN THE PRESENT
GOVERNMENT.

2. THE FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS:

A. THE NATIONAL SALAVATION PARTY (NSP), IN COOPERATION WITH THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY (DP), SUCCEEDED IN PREVENTING NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (NA) CONSIDERATION ON MARCH 31 AND APRIL 1 OF A BY-LAWS CHANGE WHICH WOULD FACILITATE THE MOVEMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION DATE FROM OCTOBER TO JUNE.

B. THE DP PRESENTED A CENSURE MOTION AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT APRIL 1. THIS MOTION WILL COME UP FOR A VOTE ON ABOUT APRIL 6. RPP PARLIAMENTARY GROUP DEPUTY LEADER OLCEN SAID RPP WOULD SUPPORT THE MOTION. IF THE NWP DOES NOT BOLT, THE GOVERNMENT HAS THE VOTES TO DEFEAT THE MOTION, BUT IN THE CURRENT POLITICAL ATMOSPHERE, ALMOST ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE.

C. TWO PARLIAMENTARY INVESTIGATING COMMITTEES TOOK ACTIONS WHICH COULD ALSO EVENTUALLY LEAD TO CENSURE MOTIONS AGAINST THE DEMIREL GOVERNMENT (REF B). PRIMIN DEMIREL REACTED TO THESE ACTIONS SAYING THEY AMOUNTED TO POLITICAL MUD-SLINGING AND DID NOT REPRESENT AN EFFORT TO SEEK THE TRUTH. HE CRITICIZED COMMENTS BY LOCKHEED COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN (RPP DEPUTY YILMAZ ALPASLAN) ABOUT "GOVERNMENT LEADERS, STATESMEN AND TURKISH GENERAL STAFF CHIEF GENERAL SANCAR" CALLING THEM "BRAZEN AND CARELESS ACCUSATIONS." SANCAR HIMSELF SPEAKING TO REPORTERS APRIL 4 SAID THAT IT SHOULD NEVER BE FORGOTTEN THAT IT IS A "SACRED, PARTRIOTIC DUTY TO RESPECT THE HONOR AND DIGNITY OF THE TURKISH ARMED FORCES
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ANKARA 02481 041459Z

AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL."

D. PARTY LEADERS SPENT THE WEEKEND CAMPAIGNING IN PROVINCIAL CAPITALS. PRIMIN DEMIREL CHALLENGED THE GOOD FAITH OF THE RPP SAYING THAT EARLY ELECTIONS WOULD OCCUR IF THE RPP WAS NOT ENGAGED IN A GAME OF DECEIT. HE ACCUSED ECEVIT OF WANTING A GOVERNMENT CRISIS RATHER THAN ERLY ELECTIONS. ECEVIT ACCUSED THE DEMIREL GOVERNMENT OF PREVENTING SECURITY FORCES FROM PROVIDING "SECURITY OF LIFE IN THE COUNTRY." HE ALSO SAID THAT IF THE NSP AND DP SUCCESSFULLY CONTINUE THEIR OBSTRUCTIONIST TACTICS FOR A FEW MORE DAYS, THE IDEA OF EARLY ELECTIONS WOULD HAVE TO BE ABANDONED.

E. ONE NEWSPAPER REPORTED APRIL 2 THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE RPP, NSP AND DP MET APRIL 1 TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF A FORMATION OF A NEW COALITION GOVERNMENT IN THE EVENT THAT EARLY ELECTIONS ARE NOT ELD.

3. COMMENT: THE OUTCOME OF ALL THIS MANEUVERING IS UNCERTAIN,

BUT POSSIBLE RESULTS INCLUDE JUNE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS
HELD UNDER THE PRESENT OR AN INDEPENDENT CARETAKER GOVERNMENT
OR REGULARLY SCHEDULED OCTOBER ELECTIONS WITH EITHER
THE DEMIREL GOVERNMENT STILL IN POWER OR ANOTHER COALITION
GOVERNMENT BEING FORMED TO GOVERN DURING THE INTERVENING
PERIOD. REGARDLESS, THE NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS WILL BE FILLED
WITH ACTIONS DESIGNED BY TURKISH POLITICAL LEADERS SOLELY
TO INFLUENCE TURISH PUBLIC OPINION. UNDER THESE CONDITIONS,
THE CAPACITY OF THE GOT TO DEAL EFFECTIVELY WITH INTERNAL
AND EXTERNAL ISSUES WILL CONTINUE TO BE SEVERELY
CIRCUMSCRIBED.
MACOMBER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEBATES, POLITICAL PARTIES, NATIONAL ELECTIONS, ELECTION CAMPAIGNS, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ANKARA02481
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770116-0831
Format: TEL
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770493/aaaadcut.tel
Line Count: 128
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 504801ab-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 ANKARA 2363, 77 ANKARA 2445
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2913099
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TURKISH POLITICAL DEBATE HEATS UP
TAGS: PINT, TU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/504801ab-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009